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DIRECTIONS

At large,

1477 aa. 38.

And cautionary, touching the proper Uſe

OF THOSE

Famous Pills

CALLED

Dr. *DE-LAUN's* HEAD-PILLS,

Many years compoſed, and ſold in *Black-Friers*, *LONDON*:

Alſo the Nature of them, and the occaſion of this their Publication.

Set forth by *MICHAEL BELKE*, Phyſician.

LONDON,
Printed for the Author, 1667.

Famous Pills

DIRECTIONS

At large, and cautionarry, touching the proper Vſe of thoſe Famous Pills *called* Doctor De-Laun's HEAD-PILLS, *&c.*

HAving heard of the extraordinary waies of ſetting forth the univerſal Uſefulneſs of other *Pills*, meerly under the Notion of Chymicall Preparations, which way (as new) taketh the more with many; and having had longeſt experience of the Compoſing, Adminiſtring, and Operation of theſe *Pills*, of any perſon now living: I held my ſelf concerned to ſet forth and defend in like publick manner theſe *Pills* from the popular inſultation of any Pills whatſoever, and to endeavour their preſervation from all obſcurity; they having been many years very eminent, and uſefull to the World.

Theſe *Pills* are not onely Cephalick as to the Head, but alſo Hepatick as to the Liver, and Lienterical as to the Spleen; ſtrongly purging the Head, yet in the farewell comforting the ſame; alſo forceably opening the Liver and Spleen, cleanſing the Bloud, and generally expurgating viſcous and groſs Humours out of the Body.

The Ingredients of theſe *Pills* are very many; of which ſome are gently opening, others forceably purging: the rudeneſs of which Purgatives is ſubjected unto, and qualified by the ſuperintendent correction of what is Chymicall, ſo that they anſwer their intended deſigns and purpoſes with much ſafety.

They are very durable, and have commonly been tranſported into many farre and remote parts of the World, where they have gained great approbation, as well as in theſe three Kingdoms for ſeventy or eighty years. And as to their Compoſure, *Galen* and *Paracelſus* might have been fairly reconciled in them.

The general Bent and Tendency of theſe (as before from the three Heads thereof) is left to all rational perſons to find out.

If the evil conſequences of a frigid and humid Brain, of an obſtructed Liver, and a tumefied Spleen, (the very Sink of the Body) can be prevented in their Fountains; then that great Catalogue of thoſe collaterall or adherent Diſtempers may be much obliterated.

Whence come over-cold, ſharp, and ſalt Catarrhs, and unnatural Defluxions, which by their aſperities over-much irritate the Lungs to Coughs, and cauſe Ulcerations in order to Conſumptions, but from the Head? or (if their tendency take into another Chanel) by falling on the Nerves and extream parts, they cauſe Tooth-ach, ſome kindes of Gouts, and painful white Swellings, hardly brought to ſedation, but by dealing with the Fountain.

Whence the generall corruption of the Bloud, but from the partial and unequal Sanguifying of the Liver? whence, if too groſs, Palſies and Apoplexies; if too ſalt, Pleuritical and other Feavers; if too ſerous and thin, Dropſies do inſue.

Whence Melancholy and Hypochondriacal Paſſions, even to the higheſt pitch of Diſtemper, but from the Spleen inſorbing, and thence expunging ſuch ſordities, as the ſtate of the Body (wherein it is ſited) doth moſt plentifully afford?

Theſe *Pills* are (in their conſequence) inimicitious and very repugnant unto that Epidemical Diſeaſe called the *Scurvy*.

Although much hath been written of the Univerſality of other *Pills*, urging the frequent and familiar taking of them ſo farre, that (if all could be made good) Phyſicians might burn their Books, and ſeek ſome other Imployment; and it's full time ſo to doe, when one ſort of *Pills* ſhall cure all Diſeaſes, known

or

or unknown, without name or number: yet I affirm no ſuch inherent excellency in theſe, but what I have ſtated, I ſhall ſtand unto, touching them; provided that they be timely adminiſtred, rather by way of prevention of, then recovery out of the evil conſequences of what is before mentioned: adviſing all perſons to apply themſelves to able Phyſicians at hand before too dangerouſly ſeaſed, for they know better how to move after the ſeveral exigencies, more eſpecially in caſe of dangerous Feavers accompanying them, (being preſent) then any perſon abſent (by any general Directions) can.

Directions for the Quantities in taking of them.

Whereas the ancient cuſtome hath been, for a man or woman of ſtrongeſt Conſtitution ſometimes to take two for one Doſe, which was 18. grains good weight, and for all others to take one *Pill* for one Doſe; I have obſerved the two to be many times too ſtrong, and the one too weak for a ſecond ſort, and too ſtrong for the weakeſt, who had like need of them: and therefore I do now make ſome of nine grains, and ſome of ſix grains, whereby they may be fitly proportionated to every perſon from 6. to 18. years of age, and thence to declining age, as followeth.

To one of ſix years (and ſtrength proportionable) 6. grains; which is one of the ſmalleſt ſort of *Pills*.

To one of nine years 9. grains; which is one of the largeſt ſort of *Pills*.

To one of twelve years 12. grains; which is two of the ſmalleſt ſort.

To one of fifteen years 15. grains; which is one great and one ſmall one.

To one of eighteen years 18. grains; which is two of the

greateſt ones, or three of the ſmalleſt. And thence the like to declining age.

I adviſe no perſon to exceed theſe proportions, but rather then ſo, to take 15 for 18, 12 for 15, 9 for 12, 6 for 9, and 4 grains and a half, the moiety of a great *Pill* cut in ſunder, and rouled again, in ſtead of 6.

Directions for Adminiſtring of them.

Let the Temperature of the air be moderate, (if extream neceſſity urge not.) And when the days are longeſt, let them be taken in manner and at times ſpecified as followeth.

Let theſe *Pills* be ſwallowed down whole (rouled in, or covered over immediately before the taking with ſome Conſerve, Quiddiny, pap of Apple or Pear, or ſyrupe gratefull to the Palate) at three in the morning in bed, ſleeping therein after the ſame, if the Party can, and about four hours after beginning to take warm Suppings, taking now and then a draught during the operation thereof, and keeping moderately warm all that day; and at night at bed-time taking a little Ale or Beer clarified with ſome Nutmeg and Roſemary therein hot, and ſweetned with Sugar to liking.

And when the days ſhall be at the ſhorteſt, let them be taken at ſix in the morning in manner as the former.

And at all other times, (the days lengthning or ſhortning) let them be taken ſooner or later in the mornings, ſutably to what is before ſtated.

Directions after the uſe of them.

When reſpect is had moſt to *Rheums* in the Head, Conſerves of Red Roſes, Roſemary, Red Sage, Wood-Betony, and Cow-ſlip Flowers, with ſome Nutmeg therein, are proper

to

to be often and at ſeaſonable times taken, or their like.

Alſo Perfumes of Cephalick Gumms, as Benjamin, Storax, Olibanum, Maſtick, Frankincenſe, with ſome Amber, and their like, are very uſefull.

Alſo Caps quilted with fine Flax within, and like Gumms, with Amber, and Cephalick Herbs, Flowers, and Spices, as Red Sage, Wood-Betony, Red Roſes, Roſemary Flowers, Lavender, Cloves and Nutmegs, or the like, may be fitly worn.

When greateſt reſpect is had to the *Liver*, Conſerves of Cichory-Flowers, Garden Scurvy-graſs, Roman Wormwood, are proper.

Alſo clarified Whey, or Poſſet-Drink with a daſh of white Wine therein, with Harts-tongue, Liverwort, Agrimony, Sorrel, Perſley-Roots, Fennell-Roots, and Polypodie-Roots, with a ſmall quantity of ſweet Fennell-Seeds boyled therein, may be of effectual uſe.

When greateſt reſpect is had to the *Spleen*, eſpecially as to Melancholie, Conſerves of Borrage, Bugloſſe, and Clove-Gilliflowers, alſo of Wood-Sorrel, are very uſefull.

Alſo clarified Whey, or the aforeſaid Poſſet-Drink, with Pippins or Permain-Apples, Wood-Sorrell, Borrage, Bugloſſe, Hell-weed, Tamariſk, with like opening Roots as before, and ſweet Fennell-Seeds boyled therein, are very requiſite.

Where the former, as to the Head, Liver and Spleen, are readily to be had, and accordingly prepared, there will be the leſs need of iteration, or often taking of the *Pills*.

When a Predominancy of Choler contributeth moſt plentifully unto the Diſtemper, theſe *Pills* prove ſomewhat violent in

in their working, at which times the Poſſets ought to be the whiter, and corrected with a few Aniſeeds, and the other Suppings the thicker, corrected with a little Mace, and the more often, more warm, and larger quantities taken during the operation thereof: and in caſe of faintneſs, let not Cinnamon-Water, nor any Reſtrictive thing be taken, to check any violent working, unleſs after twenty four hours, if any ſuch contingent befall ſuch perſon: and then a Clyſter injected of new Milk, and hard Sugar with a little Cinnamon therein, may be ſafe and uſefull.

The Rates of theſe Pills.

The Rate of every Box of *Pills* (wherein are three large and three ſmall ones) is two ſhillings ſix pence, with a Book of Directions into it.

The Rate of every Book of Directions, unleſs with ſuch Box of *Pills*, is two pence.

The Place which I at preſent nominate for delivering forth theſe to the ſeveral perſons, and receiving returns from them, is in *Angel-Court* near the *May-pole* in the *Strand, London*, where I, or ſome other perſon (in mine abſence, deputed by me) ſhall conſtantly attend the ſaid buſineſs.

The Boxes ſhall be all of Tinn, ſealed with mine accuſtomed Seal, an Anchor, and *M. B.* ſignifying my name; and the Directions ſhall have my name printed at the foot of every of them.

Michael Belke, Med.

Strand, London,
Apr. 1667.